

REMARKS

In the August 20, 2003, Office Action, the Examiner objected to the title as not being descriptive and the drawings for allegedly containing improper cross-hatching and failure to reference "envelope." The Examiner rejected claims 2, 5-7, 9-12, and 14-17 and those dependent thereon under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for "failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter for which applicant regards as the invention." See Office Action, pg. 3-4. The Examiner also rejected claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 8-12 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,431,579 (hereinafter, "Kishi").

In addition, the Examiner noted that claims 3, 4, 7, and 13-17 have or depend from claims that have allowable subject matter. The Examiner objected to claims 3, 4, 7, and 13-17 "as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." See Office Action, pg. 7. The Examiner indicated that claims 7 and 14-17 would allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph...and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." See Office Action, pg. 7.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 8, and 9 and canceled claims 3, 4, and 13-17, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. Claims 1, 2, and 5-12 are currently pending.

OBJECTIONS TO SPECIFICATION

Applicant has amended the title to read "IC Socket Having a Cover Member and Guide Members." Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the objection to the title.

OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicant has amended the drawing as shown in the attached annotated drawing sheets. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the objection to the drawings.

35 U.S.C. 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

The Examiner rejected claims 2, 5-7, 11, 12, 16, and 17 and those claims that may be dependent thereon, because the "meaning of 'envelope' is not assigned an element number in the drawings or described in the specification in a manner" so that "one skilled in the art can know the meets and bounds of the claim." See Office Action, pg. 4. Applicant has amended the drawings and specification and canceled claims 16 and 17. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection to claims 2, 5-7, 11, and 12.

The Examiner rejected claims 9 and 14 because it is allegedly unclear whether the claim language "a curved elastic portion at its intermediate portion" is a further limitation of the first arm or second arm. See Office Action, pg. 4. Applicant has amended claim 9 to more appropriately define the present invention and canceled claim 14 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection to claim 9.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner indicated that claims 3 and 13 would be allowable if "rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." Office Action, pg. 7. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 8 to include the allowable subject matter of claims 3 and 13. Accordingly, the rejection to claims 1, 2, and 5, 6 and 8-12 is rendered moot.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3, 4, 7, and 13-17. As noted above, claims 3, 4 and 13-17 have been canceled and the allowable subject matter of claims 3 and 13 has been incorporated into claims 1 and 8, respectively. In addition, Applicant amended the drawings and specification to address the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph rejection to claim 7. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, and 5-12 are in immediate condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

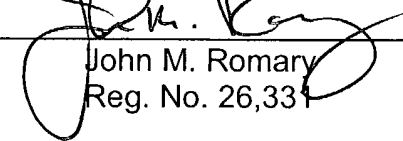
In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of pending claims 1, 2, 5-12, and 18-25.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
John M. Romary
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Attachments: Replacement Sheets (5 sheets; Figures 1-5)
Annotated Sheets (4 sheets showing changes to Figures 2-5)

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